

8-14-1882

Letter from Sarah Whitney, Belmont, Massachusetts, to Anne Whitney, 1882 August 14

Sarah Whitney

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To Shillburne

Belmont Aug. 14. '82

Certainly my dearest Anne three, four or five hundred of my Dollars are ready for any call that will give you pleasure. If it will still further promote yi happiness to give me a note for the same promising to pay 5 per cent, so be it, though I don't want it, & shall never demand the perform~~ance~~, thereof. Let Edw know when & how the money shall be sent, & I will consider the investment as good as any that I have. For yi sake & the Whitmans may the pretty picture you paint prove a profitable reality. It pleases my mind's eye now, ~~but~~ cannot do more at present. I am very well when no thought of change disturbs my indolence. Mother has moments, perhaps hours of tolerable comfort in the cool days, but a whole day's night of mental & bodily toror cannot be counted on. It seems very concited

to say so, but I know it wld disturb her
very much if I shd propose to leave her,
& I do not want to do it unless I shd
find a necessity for it in my own
impaired health. So please dear, say
no more about it - I will speak if the
time comes. Yr letter, beside all the
other good things in it is a god-send
in its solution of a question that was
troubling me this morn'g - viz. where can
I get some "raspberry shrub"? Mrs Brigham
made a bottle of it last year & Mother has
found much satisfaction in the drinking of
~~it~~ it is nearly gone. The drought or some-
thing else has caused ^{I suppose} the crop to be a
failure, for we have not seen a berry. I
will send you the recip't. & as it cost but
little ~~but~~ ~~or~~ expenditure of labor or money
I think Yr Land Lady wld make one or
two bottles. I know Mother wld gladly pay
double its value.

In regard to the tru protector, it seems to me
that unless you know that it is a creature that

crawls up the trunk as does the grub of the
Canker-worm to lay its eggs, it wd be a needless
expense & trouble to buy the ring. Some experi-
menting with Tanned Paper one year might
prove or disprove a theory on the subject.
Of course if Mr. W. knows the habits of the
barnint, he can be helped by Edward or some-
body else at the Verb.

In a hurried interview with the Stones this
mornig. I learned that the Mr. Vernon scheme
turns out to be impracticable, & that Fannie
has written to Lyneboro for information as to ac-
commodations where she was a year or two
since. Aunt S. informed me she had no
thought of leaving her family - but Sarah,
standing behind her made me understand ^{that}
~~that~~ nods & winks & wreathed smiles that in
"this age of the world's progress the elder
generation ~~was~~ ruled by the younger, &
that when the time comes her mother
will have to march. The poor woman
seems not to have improved in her few
days visit at Milton & I don't wonder
that she shrinks from a longer journey.
I don't covet an ailing body - but, if I had
one, perhaps I sh'd feel less troubled by
those of my friends!!! I can't tell you
how relieved I am by the assurance
implied in yr. letters, just rec'd. that

neither Dysentery, Typhus or any other
dreadful sickness that sometimes
ravages river towns has not laid
its heavy hand upon you. Do be very
careful what you eat & what you
drink & wherewithal you are clothed
(Scripture to the contrary notwithstanding)
in these times when day & night
bring such variable temperature to try
the human mechanism.

Thurs. A. M. Carrie sends much love to
you & Addy - She is crowded with business,
pressing now to meet in Cambridge her
3 Ohio friends to do up the lions there
& bring them home to dine. Yesterday on
their arrival from "Cottage City" she
placed them in a "Christian Association"
boarding-house & then took them to B. & N.
Museum - To send my scrawl
to the mail I must say a loving
good bye.

Am very glad the N. Y. friends had
so good a time & wish for yr & Addy
like as well as their own that it might
have been prolonged.